

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

OCD
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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 25 Jan. 1952

SUBJECT Construction of the First Helicopter
25X1A in Czechoslovakia

NO. OF PAGES 1

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

1. The first Czechoslovak helicopter was constructed in the autumn of 1950 by the LET National Corporation, Prague IX, Vysocany.* Ing. Slechta, an expert employed by LET, was the designer. He is at present working on new types of two-, four-, and eight-seat helicopters for LET.

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2. The first helicopter was a single-engine type with a level propeller placed on the tail. It was equipped with a Praga D 75-hp. motor. The diameter of the two-blade rotor was 8.80 m. The steering device was patented by Slechta (Oldham's coupling). The plane's undercarriage had hydraulic shock absorbers. In the air the plane weighed 520 kgs. and could travel at a maximum speed of 140-150 kms. per hour. The average speed was 110 kms. per hour. The theoretical height attainable was five to six kilometers.

3. Only two such helicopters were produced. One was in use at the Aviation Cadet School (LVA) until it crashed. The other is now the property of the Ministry of Transportation.

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* [REDACTED] dated April-May 1949, a number of German-designed helicopters, type FA-223, were built in Cakovice. According to [REDACTED] dated Summer 1950, two-seater military helicopters were being built by Slechta at an unspecified rate. These planes were reported to be improvements on an earlier Arado helicopter.

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